

Message Text

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72

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 FEA-01 /058 W

----- 107302

R 201412Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4083

USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAT

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

DIA WASHDC

SECDEF (ASD/ISA) WASHDC

UNCLAS CAIRO 5060

USIA FOR IOPXM

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, EG, US, XF

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS COMMENTS ON SCHLESINGER REMARKS

1. AHAM AND AKHBAR EDITORIALS MAY 20 DISCUSSED SECDEF SCHLESINGER'S RECENT REMARKS ON ME AND OIL. AHAM EDITOR COMMENTS THAT SCHLESINGER'S "LANGUAGE SUGGESTS THAT ME ISSUE GOVERNED ONLY.. BY CONFRONTATION WITH SOVIET UNION". HE USES SECDEF'S REMARKS ON SUEZ CANAL AS EXAMPLE, NOTING THAT REOPENING MENTIONED ONLY IN CONTEXT OF ITS EFFECTS ON US/USSR NAVAL BALANCE RATHER THAN AS BOON TO INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING

2. AHAM EDITOR REMARKS THAT THIS VIEW PRECLUDES US FROM SEEKING TO CARRY ON "FRUITFUL DIALOGUE WHICH BRINGS ADVANTAGES TO ALL PARTIES CONCERNED" AS IT FORCES US TO CONCENTRATE ON "MAINTAINING ITS POSITION IN ME". AKHBAR, IN CONTRAST,
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STATES THAT "RELATIVELY TOUGH AMERICAN POLICY" CALLED FOR

IN ALL WORLD'S HOTSPOTS.

3. ON OIL REMARKS, EDITORS COMMENT THAT THEY WERE "COUCHED
IN TERMS OF THREAT TO USE FORCE IN EVENT THAT ARAB OIL
PRODUCING STATES RESORTED ONCE AGAIN TO PETROLEUM WEAPON".

4. AHAM EDITORIAL CONCLUDES WITH STATEMENT THAT EGYPT "WILL
NOT SUBMIT TO THESIS THAT THERE IS SCHIZOPHRENIC DIVISION IN
AMERICAN AUTHORITY" AND DEMANDS "FROM THAT AUTHORITY A CLEAR
AND RESPONSIBLE ATTITUDE, FREE FROM AMBIGUITY OR NUANCES OF
EQUIVOCATION". AKHBAR EDITORIAL ENDS WITH HOPE THAT
SCHLESINGER WAS EXPRESSING PERSONAL VIEWS RATHER THAN US POLICY.

5. IN SEPARATE FRONT PAGE ARTICLE, AHAM REPORTS THAT
JORDANIAN AND LEBANESE NEWSPAPERS HAVE LABELED SCHLESINGER'S
COMMENTS "THREATS" NOT IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE.
MAESTRONE

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NNN

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